

1 CLAIMS

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3 ^{sub} 1. One or more computer-readable media having stored thereon a
4 computer program that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one
5 or more processors to perform functions including:

6 collecting, at a client computer, registration information using one or more
7 registration wizards;

8 establishing a communication link between the client computer and a
9 network;

10 establishing a first connection, via the communication link, to a first
11 registration server of a plurality of registration servers;

12 communicating at least a first portion of the registration information to the
13 first registration server via the first connection;

14 establishing a second connection, via the communication link, to a second
15 registration server of the plurality of registration servers; and

16 communicating at least a second portion of the registration information to
17 the second registration server via the second connection.
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19 2. One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein
20 the program further causes the one or more processors to perform functions
21 including:

22 establishing additional connections to additional registration servers of the
23 plurality of registration servers via the communication link; and

24 communicating additional portions of the registration information to the
25 additional registration servers.

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2 3. One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein
3 the first portion and the second portion share at least some common information.
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5 4. One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein
6 the first portion and the second portion are identical.
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8 5. One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein
9 the registration information includes one or more of user demographic information
10 and client computer information.
11

12 6. One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein
13 the one or more registration wizards correspond to one or more software
14 applications or hardware components.
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16 7. One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein
17 the establishing the first connection comprises establishing a first hypertext
18 transfer protocol (HTTP) connection, and wherein the establishing the second
19 connection comprises establishing a second hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP)
20 connection.
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22 8. A method comprising:
23 collecting, at a client computer, registration information using a registration
24 wizard;
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1 establishing a communication link between the client computer and a
2 network;

3 establishing a plurality of connections, via the communication link,
4 between the client computer and a plurality of registration databases; and

5 communicating, for each of the plurality of connections, at least a portion
6 of the registration information to one of the plurality of registration databases.

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8 9. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the communicating
9 comprises communicating, for each of the plurality of connections, a different
10 portion of the registration information to the one of the plurality of registration
11 databases.

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13 10. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein the different portions share
14 at least some common information.

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16 11. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the registration information
17 includes one or more of user demographic information and client computer
18 information.

19
20 12. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the collecting comprises
21 collecting the registration information for a plurality of software applications and
22 hardware components.

1 13. One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer
2 program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim
3 8.

4
5 14. A method comprising:
6 collecting, at a client computer, registration information for a plurality of
7 registering components using a single registration wizard;
8 establishing a plurality of connections between the client computer and a
9 plurality of registration databases corresponding to the plurality of registering
10 components; and
11 transferring at least a portion of the registration information to each of the
12 plurality of registration databases via the plurality of connections.

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14 15. A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the plurality of registering
15 components includes a software component and a hardware component.

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17 16. A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the hardware component
18 comprises the client computer.

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20 17. A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the plurality of registering
21 components correspond on a one to one basis with the plurality of registration
22 databases.

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1 18. A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the establishing a plurality
2 of connections comprises:

3 establishing a communication link between the client computer and a
4 network; and

5 subsequently establishing connections between the client computer and
6 each of the plurality of registration databases via the communication link.

7
8 ~~19.~~ A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the establishing a plurality
9 of connections comprises:

10 establishing, using a first dial-up number, a first communication link to a
11 first of the plurality of registration databases; and

12 upon terminating the first communication link, establishing, using a second
13 dial-up number, a second communication link to a second of the plurality of
14 registration databases.

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16 20. A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the transferring comprises
17 transferring different portions of the registration information to different ones of
18 the plurality of registration databases.

19
20 21. A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the registration
21 information includes one or more of user demographic information and client
22 computer information.

1 22. One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer
2 program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim
3 14.

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5 23. A system comprising:
6 a registration wizard to collect registration information for a plurality of
7 manufacturers; and
8 one or more posting modules, coupled to the registration wizard, to,
9 establish a plurality of connections between the client computer and
10 a plurality of registration databases corresponding to the plurality of
11 manufacturers, and
12 transfer at least a portion of the registration information to each of
13 the plurality of registration databases via the plurality of connections.
14

15 24. A system as recited in claim 23, wherein the plurality of
16 manufacturers include one or more of software application designers, hardware
17 component manufacturers, and the system manufacturer.
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19 25. A system as recited in claim 23, wherein the plurality of
20 manufacturers correspond on a one to one basis with the plurality of registration
21 databases.
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1 26. A system as recited in claim 23, wherein the one or more posting
2 modules are further to transfer different portions of the registration information to
3 different ones of the plurality of registration databases.

4
5 27. A system as recited in claim 23, wherein the registration information
6 includes one or more of user demographic information and client computer
7 information.

8
9 28. A system comprising:
10 a plurality of server computers coupled to a network, each being coupled to
11 at least one of a plurality of registration databases to store registration information
12 received by the server computer; and

13 a client computer, coupled to the network, to collect registration
14 information for a plurality of manufacturers using a single user interface and to
15 upload portions of the registration information to registration databases of the
16 plurality of registration databases via a single communication link.

17
18 29. An apparatus comprising:
19 a bus;
20 a processor coupled to the bus;
21 a network connection device coupled to the bus; and
22 a memory, coupled to the bus, to store a plurality of instructions that are
23 executed by the processor, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed,
24 cause the processor to,
25 collect registration information,

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initiate, using the network connection device, a communication link
to a network,
establish, via the communication link, a plurality of connections
between the apparatus and a plurality of registration databases, and
communicate, for each of the plurality of connections, at least a
portion of the registration information to one of the plurality of registration
databases.

30. An apparatus as recited in claim 29, wherein the plurality of
instructions that, when executed, cause the processor to collect registration
information further cause the processor to collect one or more of user demographic
information and client computer information.

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